

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has required election from the following groups:

- I Claims 1-17 drawn to a method of forming a peptide conjugate, and
- II Claims 18-19 drawn to a cell comprising a peptide conjugate.

In response, Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group I (Claims 1-17) for initial examination.

Election of Species

In response to the requirement to elect a single disclosed species with all variables defined for prosecution on the merits, Applicants hereby elect the following:

- (1) Protein to be modified - Erythropoietin; and
- (2) The modified sugar - water soluble polymer.

Claim 1-8 and 11-16 are generic to this election. Claims 9, 10 and 17 read on the elected species.

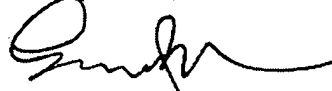
Applicants believe that the above election satisfies the requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121.

Shawn DeFrees, *et al.*
Application No.: 10/549,528
Response to Restriction

PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-442-1000.

Respectfully submitted,



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